

Bobby Jones Defeats Dyer in Merion Golf

Southern Youth Plays Remarkable Game in National Title Tourney.

GARDNER WHITE WINS OVER KIRKBY

Evans and Gardner Also Survivors—Latter Meets Jones To-day.

By GRANTLAND RICE.

Merion Golf Club, Haverford, Penn., Sept. 6.—Considering the personal question and all other intimate details, a chunky, chubby fellow of a lad, just sixteen years old, with a pink, round nose and big, blue eyes, gave the greatest exhibition of golf to-day that we have ever seen.

His name is Bobby Jones, Jr., of Atlanta, Ga., and whatever he may be against Robert A. Gardner, amateur champion, on Thursday, his name is already written on the sporting scroll, where only the select, those who combine surpassing skill with lion hearted courage, have any right to belong.

Young Jones did something more than merely beat F. W. Dyer, the Merion star. In it was a real achievement, but he came from behind when he was 5 down at the sixth hole, and he came from behind with Dyer at the top of his game, playing the finest sort of golf upon his own hook and fighting for every inch of Merion award.

Beyond all this, the Georgia kid took away nine-tenths of the big gallery from Evans and Gardner, open and amateur champions, and with the largest gathering of the week following the match gave an exhibition of golf that astounded every watcher and that sought salves of applause upon shot after shot.

Plays Best Golf of Week.

Jones won from Dyer by the margin of 1 and 2, and to turn this trick he played the last thirty holes in 2 under 4, by all odds the best golf of the championship week. His play to-day would more than likely have won any match that has been played so far, and he carries the same game to the field against Bob Gardner, the amateur champion will need all the best that he and destiny have in store to survive the ordeal.

Wednesday's series of rounds brought but one upset, beyond the Jones-Dyer contest. Bob Gardner eliminated Max Marston by the safe margin of 4 and 1, but Oswald Kirby, star player of the high class work of the brilliant work of Gardner and White, who traveled at such a rapid pace from morning to sunset, after the first class play at the Merion, played his chance to-day.

White beat Kirby 2 up after they had reached the thirty-fourth tee upon even terms. Missed putts at the thirty-second and thirty-fourth holes cost Kirby his chance to face Jones in the final round before the semi-final class. But as White returned a 70 in the morning and a 77 in the afternoon, Kirby's defeat should be charged against the high class work of his opponent, who made very few mistakes.

Clark Evans and John G. Anderson, who met Thursday, had no great trouble against W. F. Smith and Robert A. Hunter, while Guilford, Corkran and Buxton came safely through.

But after all, the big human interest match of the day was between young Jones and Frank Dyer. Dyer had beaten Kirby, and he was playing sound golf, but he had one thought the fourteen-year-old kid had an outside chance, and he won his victory over Ed Byers on Tuesday.

Jones Makes Bad Start.

This prediction looked to be based on true form when young Jones got away badly, lost the first three holes and stood 5 down at the sixth. He was looking worse than hopeless here, but Dyer was moving along nicely and began to look as if the Georgia kid was in a runaway affair that the kid would be practically overwhelmed by the sixth hole.

No young Jones had the blessed luck of youth that knows no nerves. Added to this were building courage and skill. At the seventh tee in the afternoon he caught his balance again, and a new grip upon his game and he was playing sound golf again.

This left Bobby 2 down at the ninth and 1 down at the tenth, quite a difference from being 5 down at the sixth. But Dyer matched the eleventh with a fine 3 and moved back to 2 up. He really lasted but a breath, for Jones dropped the next three holes in par figure and won the 330-yard fifteenth with a fine 3. He was now 1 down, owing to the difficult sixteenth.

This hole is 432 yards in length, and the second shot must be played across a heavy fairway reeking with disaster. Dyer played first and his shot caught, and he was playing sound golf again. Taking an iron from 130 yards away, he did it right into the hole with full force, and when the ball had settled upon the green, exactly three feet to the right of the cup. He was now 2 down.

Still fighting gamely on, made a wonderful recovery, dropping his ball on the trap to within four feet of the hole. But missed his putt, so Jones was 3 down.

Makes Two on Seventeenth.

The seventeenth is 210 yards across the green. The youngster slipped a shot to within ten feet of the cup.

Winners at Merion.

Robert A. Gardner, Hinsdale, beat M. R. Marston, Baltimore, 5 up and 3 to play.
R. G. Jones, Jr., Atlanta, beat F. M. Dyer, Merion, 4 up and 2 to play.
John Guilford, Weard, beat G. A. Ormiston, Baltimore, 4 up and 3 to play.
Gardner W. White, Flushing, beat Oswald Kirby, Englewood, 2 up.
J. G. Anderson, Sylvania, beat R. E. Hunter, Merion, 4 up and 3 to play.
Charles Evans, Jr., Edgewater, beat W. P. Smith, Pine Valley, 10 up and 9 to play.
D. C. Corkran, Baltimore, beat Perry Adair, Atlanta, 5 up and 3 to play.
C. B. Buxton, Huntlands Valley, beat George Small, Baltimore, 3 up and 1 to play.

and when Dyer came up dead on his second Jones promptly sunk his putt for a 2. At this stage he was four under 48 for the last eight holes, with a 1 left for a 32 coming home. He would undoubtedly have made this mark but for an unfortunate mix-up on the eighteenth.

Both had slight hooks from the tee, and when the balls were found one was at the edge of the rough, lying nicely for an easy shot, while the other was in an almost impossible lie. At this stage Jones played Dyer's ball from the hole, and it was not until both had holed out that the mistake was discovered. This mix-up cost Jones a 6 and the hole, but even against this break he had come back in 34 and had squared a hard uphill match.

As Bob Gardner was 5 up on Marston in the forenoon, the big gallery lost no time making its choice for the afternoon match. Over 2,000 swung in back of the Jones-Dyer match, starting the last eighteen upon even terms.

This time the kid made no mistake about a loose start. He drove 250 yards, dropped his second within fifteen feet of the cup and moved out to 1 up when Dyer's second found a deep trap to the right of the green.

Plays Unbeatable Golf.

In spite of the fine golf that Dyer played the rest of the afternoon, this was merely the beginning of an inevitable end. For the kid was now on his mettle, and the golf he played was almost beyond belief. After winning the first hole, he laced out a tee shot at the long second, fully 350 yards up hill. Both played well, and the hole was halved in par 38.

Two fine, long tee shots followed at the third, and after two fine irons, the 417-yard hole was halved in par 45. The fourth hole was a thriller. Jones drove 280 yards with a slight pull, leaving himself a downhill lie. Dyer hooked his tee shot into a veritable Gehenna of a lie upon the left, and he looked to be hopelessly out of it. But in place of wilting, he played one of the finest shots of the tournament over a deep trap to within fifteen feet of the cup.

Now watch the kid miss his, after this," remarked a bystander. Without an instant's delay the youngster not only carried the trap and held the green, but dropped his ball inside of Dyer's for an easy half in 4.

Long Fifth is Halved.

The long fifth was halved in par 55, but the difficult sixth was another thriller. Jones was straight down the course, while Dyer hooked to the water. He was forced to lift and lose a stroke, being 130 yards short of the green on his third. A fine iron shot put Jones high below the cup in the eighth hole, and he was now 3 up. Jones was now 3 up, and he was now 3 up.

A fine recovery and an eight-foot putt saved Dyer again on the seventh, where he got a half in 4, but he lost the eighth, when his shot caught, and he was playing sound golf again. He was now 2 down at the short ninth, or twenty-seventh, where both drew fine shots and got their par 38. A pulled drive to a bunker cost young Robert the tenth, but he got this back on the eleventh, when Dyer also pulled to trouble.

Jones was now 1 up coming to the short thirteenth. His marble putt dropped twenty feet beyond the hole, while Dyer's green, while Dyer's pitch fell forty yards short of the brook. The Montclair star was in on 2, getting a half when Jones overruled and missed caught his victory over Ed Byers on Tuesday.

Two long, straight drives and two fine second brought a half in par figures at the fourteenth, but the big smash came at the next hole.

Then Came The End.

Young Jones drove 270 yards down the middle and Dyer's tee shot was exactly six inches away. The two balls were lying so close that Jones was forced to lift. Dyer shipped up a tee shot to within ten feet of the cup, while Jones dropped a high niblick pitch twenty feet beyond the pin. The kid had a hard downhill putt to lay dead, but he hit the shot firmly and the ball dropped in for a 3, Dyer missing his.

Two up and 3 to play, the youngster hammered out a long drive, tapped a cleek shot to within ten feet of the hole, and he was playing sound golf again. He was now 2 down at the short thirteenth, where he got a half in 4, but he lost the eighth, when his shot caught, and he was playing sound golf again.

Here are the cards:

MORNING PLAY.

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